



Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.

School Exclusion List for the 2004-2005 School Year

Official List of Conditions Requiring Exclusion from School for 2004-2005 with Guidance Section Statutory authority: SC Code Sections 20-7-2980, 44-1-110, 44-1-140, and 44-29-10

SC Regulation #61-20 requires that SC DHEC publish each year an Official School and Childcare Exclusion List of Contagious and Communicable Diseases (hereinafter referred to as the Childcare Exclusion List or the School Exclusion List.) It further requires that students should be excluded from school attendance if they have one or more of the conditions in the lists. Schools should maintain a record of students who are known to have been excluded under this regulation.

The school should give a copy of the list of conditions that require exclusion from school attendance to all parents/guardians, and inform them that they must notify the school within 24 hours after their student has developed a known or suspected communicable disease. Students may return to the school as soon as their symptoms are resolved, unless stated otherwise in the lists below or by their health care provider.

All schools must report to the local health department confirmed cases of indicated communicable diseases, and should consult with SC DHEC regarding outbreaks or clusters of symptoms related to communicable diseases.

The 2004-2005 School Exclusion List is effective July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

Guidance for Implementing the 2004-2005 School Exclusion List

- **Use in Schools.** The School Exclusion List applies to students in grades 1-12 who are not medically fragile.¹ The separate **Childcare Exclusion List** should be used for students in grades K-3, K-4, and K-5, as well as students designated as being medically fragile.
- **Mixed age groupings.** When students are taught or routinely spend time in mixed age groups, the standards for the youngest children in the group apply.
- **Notes / Documentation for Return.** The type of note needed for a student to return to school is indicated in the tables that follow. Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician's Assistants or SC DHEC Health Department staff may write medical notes for return to school following an excludable condition. These notes should be kept on file at the school for at least one calendar year.
- **Period of Exclusion.** If a student does not respond to treatment for an excludable condition, the health care provider or health department may suggest longer periods of exclusion.
- **Other Diseases.** These lists address common exposures to communicable disease. SC DHEC staff are available for consultation on specific exposure risks such as close contact sports, water sports, immunocompromised status, etc.
- **Food-handling.** SC DHEC staff are available for consultation on excluding employees with symptoms or diagnoses of conditions that could be spread through feeding or other food-handling tasks.
- **Outbreaks.** During disease outbreaks or special circumstances, SC DHEC may change the recommendations in the Childcare Exclusion List and/or the School Exclusion List.

¹ For the purposes of this document, the term "Medically fragile" refers to those students with special healthcare needs or developmental delays who require close assistance with feeding or other personal hygiene activities by which communicable illnesses may be easily spread.

Students with the following conditions must be excluded from school attendance:

Exclusion Criteria	Documentation for Return	Report to Health Department ²
1. The student with symptoms or other manifestations of possible severe illness which may include (but are not limited to): a. Fever (see #2 below) b. Difficulty breathing c. Unusual lethargy d. Unusually severe Irritability	School to specify based on situation.	Not Reportable ³
2. Fever, accompanied by behavior changes or other signs and symptoms of illness (such as sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, irritability, or confusion) until medical evaluation indicates inclusion is acceptable. Fever is defined in school children as: • Oral temperature: 101.0° F or greater • Axillary temperature: 100.0° F or greater	School to specify based on situation.	Not Reportable
3. Uncontrolled diarrhea (3 or more loose stools in a 24 hour period) or stools that contain blood or mucus, until symptoms are resolved or medical evaluation indicates that inclusion is acceptable. Exclusion is not required if student is known to have these symptoms for a non-infectious condition (e.g., IBS or Crohn's Disease.)	School to specify based on situation.	Not Reportable ³
4. Infection with <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157:H7, or other shiga-toxin producing <i>E. coli</i> , until diarrhea resolves and 2 stool cultures are negative.	Medical Note	Within 24 hours by phone.
5. <i>Shigella</i> infection, until asymptomatic.	Medical Note	Within 7 days
6. <i>Salmonella typhi</i> (typhoid fever) infection • Children under 5 years of age: Exclude until treatment is completed and three stool cultures are negative at least 48 hours after completion of drug treatment. • Children 5 years of age and older: Exclude until 24 hours without a diarrheal stool. Nontyphoidal <i>Salmonella</i> infections do not require treatment or negative stool cultures prior to readmission to school.	Medical Note for Typhoid Parent Note for Non-typhoidal	Within 7 days Within 7 days
7. Rash with fever or behavioral change, until a physician has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease.	Medical Note	Not Reportable

² Responsibility for reporting communicable disease in the school or out-of-home childcare setting rests with the school principal or facility director with knowledge of the reportable condition. Mandated reporting requirements are found in the "SC 2004 List of Reportable Conditions," SC DHEC Bureau of Disease Control (http://www.scdhec.net/hs/diseasecont/docs/2004SC_ReportableDiseases.pdf).

³ SC DHEC is available for consultation on reporting outbreaks of diseases or symptoms that would not be reportable as single cases. For this document, "Outbreak" is defined as an excess number of cases or symptoms over the expected occurrence of disease within a school or classroom or group.

Students with the following conditions must be excluded from school attendance:

Exclusion Criteria	Documentation for Return	Report to Health Department ²
8. Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep and eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye), until evaluated and treated. <u>Non-purulent conjunctivitis</u> (defined as pink conjunctiva with a clear, watery eye discharge without fever, eye pain or eyelid redness) <u>does not require exclusion from school.</u>	Medical Note	Not Reportable
9. Tuberculosis, until the local health department authority or <u>treating</u> physician states that the student is noninfectious.	Medical Note	Within 7 days
10. Streptococcal pharyngitis, until afebrile and at least 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	Medical Note	Not Reportable
11. Head lice (pediculosis), <u>from the end of the school day</u> until after the first treatment.	Parent Note	Not Reportable
12. Scabies, until after treatment has been applied.	Medical Note	Not Reportable
13. Impetigo, with lesions that cannot be covered, if part of a cluster of cases within a school or if there are drooling or hygienic concerns, until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	School to specify based on situation.	Not Reportable
14. Varicella (chickenpox), until all lesions have dried and crusted (usually 6 days).	Parent Note	Within 7 days
15. Varicella-Herpes Zoster (shingles) with lesions that cannot be covered, until lesions are crusted.	Parent Note	Within 7 days
16. Pertussis, until completion of 5 days of appropriate antibiotic therapy.	Medical Note	Within 24 hours by phone
17. Mumps, until 9 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.	Medical Note	Within 7 days
18. Measles, until 4 days after onset of rash.	Medical Note	IMMEDIATELY by phone
19. Rubella, until 7 days after onset of rash.	Medical Note	Within 24 hours by phone
20. Hepatitis A virus (HAV) infection, until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice (if symptoms are mild).	Medical Note	Within 24 hours by phone
21. Conditions or illnesses that a health care provider indicates warrant exclusion.	Medical note	DHEC Staff are available for consultation on this exclusion.

Exclusion Criteria for School students who are contacts (exposed) to individuals with excludable conditions:

Exclusion Criteria for Exposure	Documentation for Return
1. When recommended by the health department, contacts to <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib), <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> (meningococcal disease), or pertussis should be excluded until antibiotic treatment has been initiated.	Medical Note
2. Other conditions when recommended by DHEC or the private physician.	SC DHEC will specify based upon situation.
3. Non-immunized school children must be excluded if exposed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measles • Rubella • Mumps • Pertussis (whooping cough) • Other conditions when recommended by DHEC 	SC DHEC will provide guidance on an individual basis regarding when a student who is immunocompromised or not sufficiently immunized may return to the school setting following an exposure to one of these conditions.

Children with the following conditions do not need to be excluded from school:

- Mild upper respiratory tract infection, even if it is associated with green or yellow nasal discharge, as long as the student does not have a fever or any of the other excludable symptoms described above
- Fifth Disease (Parvovirus B19 infection). Individuals are no longer contagious once the rash appears, and they cannot be diagnosed with Fifth Disease before the rash appears
- A red eye without a yellow or green discharge, fever or matting
- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection
- A rash without a fever
- Warts
- Croup
- Bronchitis
- Pinworm
- Pneumonia
- Ear infection
- Ringworm

References:

American Public Health Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Caring For Our Children, National Health and Safety Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Childcare Programs, 2nd Edition, Chapter 3, HP 68, 2002, US Department of Health and Human Services. <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/>

American Academy of Pediatrics, Red Book 2003, Elk Grove Village, IL

American Academy of Pediatrics, Pennsylvania Chapter, Model Childcare Health Policies, 3rd Edition, 1997, Healthy Childcare Pennsylvania, Rosemont, PA

American Academy of Pediatrics, Barton Schmitt, MD, Pediatric Telephone Protocols, Office Version, 9th Edition.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The ABCs of Safe and Health Childcare, www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/abc/abc.htm. (The ABC's were posted in 1997, and then removed from CDC website in 2003. This site's content was used to develop these exclusion lists.)

SC Department of Social Services, Division of Child Day Care Licensing and Regulatory Services. 2004 Revisions to Regulations 114-500 through 114-509.